

Town of Esopus

Waterfront Advisory Board

August 27, 2013

Members Present: Joe Guido, Marion Zimmer, Rosemarie Kristofy, Michael Minor, C. Quick, Chairperson

Members Excused: Kathy Weitze, Eli Schloss, Carol Tomassetti, Bill Benson

1. Meeting called to order 7:00 PM
2. Review of minutes July 23, 2013 Michael made a motion to accept with spelling correction of Rondout in last paragraph of the first page. Marion seconded the motion. All were in favor.
3. Zoning Board: Joe reported that Don is still out—no Waterfront issues to report.
4. Planning Board:
 - a. Lot Line Adjustments Case 2013-11 Reiker Millbrook Road, Connelly. Michael explained that the owner of a piece of land-locked land with a right of way wants to buy the land around it from Mr. Reiker. Marion made a motion to approve with no further comments. Michael seconded it. Motion approved by all.
 - b. Esopus Farms Case #2012-17 & 2012-27 Special use Permit/Site Plan/Lot Line Adjustment 1398-1466 Rt. 9W Ulster Park. Michael reported that they will use existing buildings, permeable surface roads, the only new building will be a waste water treatment plant that will discharge potable water into Black Creek. This has been approved by the DEC and the County Health Department. The only comment we have is that we hope in the future there will be public access to trails along the west side of Black Creek to the Scenic Hudson planned Burroughs-Black Creek Corridor. Motion to approve made by Rosemarie, seconded by Joe, approved by all present.
5. Environmental Board: Marion and Catherine went to Sleightburgh Spit Park to count the clumps of Frank's Sedge, as required by the DEC as part of the agreement for the use of Sleightsburgh Spit Park. There seems to be fewer clumps along the road, and there is evidence of Hurricane Sandy damage, the Phragmites grass from last year was flattened at least 12 feet from the road during the flooding that ensued. That same flooding probably uprooted the Frank's Sedge that has been growing there. Some of the clumps along the trails have been cut.

6. Marion reported she is submitting the Esopus Explorers, and educational grant that recognizes hiking the trails in the Esopus Parks to the Scenic Hudson Grant program.

7. Catherine reported that she received a letter from the Department of State that was rejecting an application for a bulkhead and dock in Hyde Park across from Esopus Meadows. It seems the State is narrowing their definition of "water dependant use". They also were insisting on a much smaller version of a dock and bulkhead than had been requested. This seems to show that the state is being increasingly vigilant regarding the riparian buffer along the Hudson River.

8. Chester: The volunteer cutting crew logged close to 100 man hours. This is close to saving the town about \$1500. in employee hours, (a minimal estimate) not to mention payroll costs. Marion suggested more emphasis might be put on cutting the chestnuts near The Landing, Esopus Meadows, and Lighthouse Park areas next year. There is an issue of a safe place to moor Chester where the cutters would have access to the boat.

9. Michael asked if we would consider asking the Planning Board to have the Tucker Pond developers replace the planted trees that were washed away in the heavy spring rains and remove the Phragmites Grass that is growing on the slope. Joe agreed. All were in favor.

10. Joe requested that the Planning Board plans for us to review be available ahead of the WAB meeting. We will investigate having a basket (or a box?) in the Town Clerk's office with the plans so we can stop by and look at the planner's comments and the maps before the WAB meeting if we choose.

11. Michael made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Rosemarie seconded, all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Next meeting: September 24 if necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine L. Quick